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**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE REQUESTED  
EXAMINING GROUP 1763**

PATENT

Customer No. 22,852

Attorney Docket No. 07553.0017

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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: )  
Mitsuru ISHIKAWA et al. )  
Application No.: 09/696,232 ) Group Art Unit: 1763  
Filed: October 26, 2000 ) Examiner: A. Olsen  
For: ETCHING METHOD )

**Mail Stop AF**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL**

In reply to the Final Office Action mailed June 5, 2003, and pursuant to 37 C.F.R.  
§ 1.116, Applicants propose that this application be amended as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims in this paper.

**Remarks** follow the amendment section of this paper.

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